

Kāpiti Anglicans

20 DECEMBER 2020

Advent

By Daniel Berrigan

It is not true that creation and the human family are doomed to destruction and loss --

This is true: For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in him, shall not perish, but have everlasting life.

It is not true that we must accept inhumanity and discrimination, hunger and poverty, death and destruction --

This is true: I have come that they may have life, and that abundantly.

It is not true that violence and hatred should have the last word, and that war and destruction rule forever --

This is true: For unto us a child is born, and unto us a Son is given, and the government shall be upon his shoulder, And his name shall be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, the Everlasting, the Prince of Peace.

It is not true that we are simply victims of the powers of evil who seek to rule the world --

This is true: To me is given authority in heaven and on earth, and lo, I am with you, even unto the end of the world.

It is not true that we have to wait for those who are specially gifted, who are the prophets of the Church, before we can be peacemakers.

This is true: I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh, and your sons and daughters shall prophesy, your young shall see visions, and your old shall have dreams.

It is not true that our hopes for the liberation of humanity, for justice, human dignity, and

peace are not meant for this earth and for this history --

This is true: The hour comes, and it is now, that true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth.

So let us enter Advent in hope, even hope against hope.

Let us see visions of love and peace and justice.

Let us affirm with humility, with joy, with faith, with courage:

Jesus Christ -- the Life of the world.

Source: *Testimony: The Word Made Fresh*, by Daniel Berrigan. Maryknoll, NY:



A special welcome to all who are visiting with us today.

We are family, we are disciples, we care for the last, the lost and the least.

Readings	20 December	24 December	25 December
First Testament	2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16	Isaiah 9:2-7	Isaiah 62:6-12
Epistle	Romans 16:25-27	Titus 2:11-14	Titus 3:4-7
Gospel	Luke 1:26-38	Luke 2:1-14/John 1:1-14	Luke 2:8-20/John 1:1-14

Sentence and Collect for the Day

Sentence: “This child will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.” (*Luke 1:33*)

Collect: God of all hope and joy, open our hearts in welcome, that your Son Jesus Christ at his coming may find in us a dwelling prepared for himself; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Lectionary Readings for Sunday 20 December 2020 **Fourth Sunday of Advent—Violet**

Psalms 89:1-4, 19-26 This messianic Psalm extols the Lord’s lasting faithfulness and eternal covenant established with David, whose descendant will rule as the firstborn, King of kings forever.

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16 David has been anointed by Samuel, defeated the remnant of the house of Saul, made King of Israel at the age of 30, and conquered Jerusalem. He now seeks to build a temple for the Ark of God, but the word of the Lord comes to Nathan the prophet. Rather than be offered ‘a house of cedar’ for the Ark, the Lord himself will establish ‘a house and throne’ for David that will endure forever.

Romans 16:25-27 Paul offers praise and glory to God, whose gospel has revealed the long-hidden mystery – that God’s will was to be proclaimed to all nations, so that through Christ both Jew and Gentile could be gathered up in the Kingdom, through the obedience of faith.

Luke 1:26-38 Luke’s account of the visit to Mary by the angel Gabriel, telling her she will bear ‘a child of the Holy Spirit’ who will assume David’s kingship to reign over the house of Jacob forever. Gabriel also tells Mary of her cousin Elizabeth’s pregnancy – shortly to result in the birth of John the Baptist.

Chris Durrant

Parish Daily Prayer Services have now stopped for the year. This will resume in the beginning of February:



Kapiti Fruit and Vege Co-op:

Anyone can join. Top quality produce.
\$15 a pack—paid by Thursday the week before the order is due.

Sign up form from the office or email:
kapitifruitandvegecoop@gmail.com

Notices

Message from Bishops Ellie and Justin

O come all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant

E te whanau, ngā mihi nui ki a koutou! As we travel towards the ending of 2020, there is much talk of joy that this year is nearly finished. But we want to be very careful not to allow ourselves to be swept up with this mindset, and instead to enter into the Christmas season honouring and being thankful for God's endless faithfulness. We are the people that testify that we have been called into a movement of divine faithfulness in which there is much joy. While this year we, individually, communally, and globally, have known much darkness, the light of Christ burns ever bright. This season of multiple carol concerts means that we get to repeatedly hear the invitation given in many Christmas songs and hymns to live into joy. One favourite, *O Come All Ye Faithful*, seems particularly relevant this year. The next phrase, with its invitation to not just come, but come being 'joyful and triumphant', is important. The triumph of this of this year is not superficial and self-congratulatory but is the deep triumph of peace which the world cannot give. It is not something we earn through our own devices but is God's freely given gift given in Jesus' birth, death and resurrection. In this carol, with its invitation to 'come', we are reminded that God is never static, and is always moving, neither slumbering or sleeping as Psalm 121 tells us. God is always inviting us into deeper intimacy. Like Mary, Joseph, the Magi and the

shepherds, may we also respond in faithfulness to God's initiative and invitation in our lives, joyfully and triumphantly. We pray that the hinges of our hearts may be oiled so that they swing easily at God's invitation. Over summer, with your friends and families, take time to treasure the moments of joy, particularly as we continue to be mindful of so many places and people in this world whose lives are still turned upside down, and the fragile reality of our comparative safety. In the year that we have had, noticing and treasuring those moments *is* triumph.

And...

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit! (Romans 15:13)

Hope, joy, peace and love be yours this Christmas.

+Ellie and +Justin

PS. On a personal note, I (+Ellie) just want to thank all those who have held my health journey in prayer this year. I am so grateful for you all.

New Wine 2021

New Wine 2021—21-25 January at Kapiti College. A great opportunity to meet people from other parishes, listen and worship together.

<https://newwine.org.nz/summer-festivals-2/kapiti/>



Wellington Rd,
Paekakariki

Kāpiti Anglicans

Morning Eucharist in the Park & BYO Picnic Lunch:

10am 27 December

Directions: - Head north along Wellington Road, past Paekakariki Holiday Camp. At the crossroad junction, after the holiday park, turn right into the carpark and areas 6 and 7 are just there, ahead of you.



For Your Diary

December 20	Nine Lessons and Carols 7pm St Paul's Church
23	Office closed—Reopen 24 January
27	Combined Morning Eucharist at QEII Park, 10am
January 21	New Wine Festival, Kapiti College, Raumati Beach
31	Kapiti Anglicans combined service at St Paul's 10am

PARISH PRAYER CHAIN: Contact **Marion Henderson** via email on:
marionhenderson@xtra.co.nz or phone 905 1171

Parish Directory

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Library—<https://kapitianglicans.libib.com/>

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